

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Previously Amended). A method of producing an interspecific *Lobelia* plant, the method comprising the steps of:

- a. crossing a *Lobelia erinus* with a *Lobelia valida*;
- b. recovering the resulting F₁ hybrid interspecific *Lobelia* seed;
- c. planting the F₁ hybrid interspecific *Lobelia* seed and growing into plants; and
- d. selecting an interspecific *Lobelia* plant.

Claim 2. (Original). The method of claim 1 wherein the *Lobelia erinus* can be either the female or male parent.

Claim 3. (Original). The method of claim 1 wherein the *Lobelia valida* can be either the female or male parent.

Please cancel claims 4-17 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 4 - 17. (Canceled).